

**Chambers of District Judge W. Louis Sands**

201 West Broad Street, Albany, GA 31701  
Tel: (229) 430-8553 Fax: (229) 430-8559

**W. Louis Sands**

District Judge

Date of Birth: 1949  
Education: Mercer 1971 BA, 1974 JD  
Began Service: May 1994  
Appointed By: President William J. Clinton

**Government:** Chief Legal Assistant to the District Attorney, Macon Judicial Circuit, State of Georgia (1974); Assistant District Attorney, Macon Judicial District, State of Georgia (1975-1978); Assistant U.S. Attorney, Georgia - Middle District, Executive Office for United States Attorneys, United States Department of Justice (1978-1987)

**Judicial:** Judge, Georgia Superior Court, Macon Judicial Circuit (1991); Chief Judge, United States District Court for the Middle District of Georgia (2001-2006)

**Legal Practice:** Partner, Mathis, Sands, Jordan & Adams (1987-1991)

**Military Service:** Captain United States Army Reserve, United States Department of the Army (1971-1980)

**Current Memberships:** Albany County Bar Association; American Judicature Society; State Bar of Georgia

**Staff**

Career Law Clerk **David Grindle** ..... (229) 430-8553  
E-mail: david\_grindle@gamd.uscourts.gov  
Career Law Clerk **Marquest Meeks** ..... (229) 430-8553  
E-mail: marquest\_meeks@gamd.uscourts.gov  
Scheduling/Courtroom Clerk **Gina Griffiths** ..... (229) 903-1332  
E-mail: gina\_griffis@gamd.uscourts.gov  
Executive Administrator **Carol Lee** ..... (229) 430-8553

**Chambers of District Judge Clay D. Land**

120 - 12th Street, Columbus, GA 31902-2017  
P.O. Box 2017, Columbus, GA 31902-2017  
Tel: (706) 649-7812 Fax: (706) 649-7813  
E-mail: clay\_land@gamd.uscourts.gov

**Clay D. Land**  
District Judge

Date of Birth: 1960  
Education: Georgia 1982 BBA, 1985 JD  
Began Service: December 28, 2001  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush

**Government:** State Senator, Georgia General Assembly (1995-2000)

**Legal Practice:** Associate, Hatcher, Stubbs, Land, Hollis & Rothschild, LLP (1985-1989); Partner, Hatcher, Stubbs, Land, Hollis & Rothschild, LLP (1989-1990); Partner, Buchanan & Land, LLP (1990-2001)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; Columbus Bar Association; State Bar of Georgia

**Staff**

Secretary **Pamela G. Sweeden** ..... (706) 649-7812

**Chambers of Senior Judge Hugh Lawson**

William Augustus Bootle Federal Courthouse, 475 Mulberry Street, Macon, GA 31202  
P.O. Box 838, Macon, GA 31202-0838  
Tel: (478) 752-3591 Fax: (478) 752-8164  
E-mail: Hugh\_Lawson@gamd.uscourts.gov

**Hugh Lawson**  
Senior Judge

Date of Birth: 1941  
Education: Emory 1963 BA, 1964 LLB  
Began Service: December 29, 1995  
Appointed By: President William J. Clinton

**Current Memberships:** Federal Judges Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Darl H. Champion, Jr.** ..... (478) 752-3591  
Began Service: 2007  
E-mail: darl\_champion@gamd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Methodist Col 2004 BA;  
Mercer 2007 JD  
Career Law Clerk **Michelle L. Schieber** ..... (478) 752-3591  
Education: Illinois State 1985 BS; Mercer 1992 JD  
Court Reporter **Sally Gray** ..... (478) 742-2332  
Executive Administrator **Nancy B. Pritchett** ... (478) 752-3591 ext. 0722

**Chambers of Chief Magistrate Judge Claude W. Hicks, Jr.**

U.S. Courthouse, 475 Mulberry Street, Macon, GA 31201  
P.O. Box 48, Macon, GA 31202  
Tel: (478) 752-8125 Fax: (478) 752-8152  
E-mail: claudew\_hicks@gamd.uscourts.gov

**Claude W. Hicks, Jr.**  
Chief Magistrate Judge

Date of Birth: 1945  
Education: Furman 1967 BA; Mercer 1970 JD  
Began Service: 1986  
Term Expires: 2010

**Judicial:** Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the Middle District of Georgia (1983-1986)

**Legal Practice:** Private Practice (1970-1986)

**Military Service:** United States Army Reserve, United States Department of the Army (1967-1975)

**Current Memberships:** Macon Bar Association; State Bar of Georgia

**Staff**

Law Clerk **James Alexander Foley** ..... (478) 752-8125  
E-mail: james\_foley@gamd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Villanova 2000 BS; Alabama 2005 JD  
Secretary **Connie R. Lassiter** ..... (478) 752-8125

**Chambers of Magistrate Judge Richard L. Hodge**

C.B. King U.S. Courthouse, 201 West Broad Street, Albany, GA 31701  
Tel: (229) 430-8577 Fax: (229) 430-8584  
E-mail: Richard\_Hodge@gamd.uscourts.gov

**Richard L. Hodge**  
Magistrate Judge

Date of Birth: 1946  
Education: Mercer 1977 JD  
Began Service: August 26, 1993  
Term Expires: August 25, 2009

**Chambers of Magistrate Judge Richard L. Hodge continued****Staff**

Law Clerk **Alicia S. Brown** ..... (229) 430-8577  
E-mail: alicia\_brown@gamd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Emory 1993 JD  
Law Clerk **Marianna S. Dickerson** ..... (229) 430-8577  
Education: Georgia 1993 JD

**Chambers of Magistrate Judge G. Mallon Faircloth**

U.S. Courthouse, 120 12th Street, Columbus, GA 31902  
P.O. Box 117, Columbus, GA 31902  
Tel: (706) 649-7860 Fax: (706) 649-7858  
E-mail: Mallon\_Faircloth@gamd.uscourts.gov

**G. Mallon Faircloth**  
Magistrate Judge

Date of Birth: 1942  
Education: Tennessee 1965 BS, 1968 JD  
Began Service: July 1, 1999  
Term Expires: June 30, 2015

**Judicial:** Judge, Superior Courts of Georgia, Cordele Judicial Circuit (1981-1999)

**Legal Practice:** Private Practice (1968-1981)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; State Bar of Georgia

**Staff**

Career Law Clerk **Lisa Wood Seals** ..... (706) 649-7860  
Education: Mississippi 1997 BBA;  
Cumberland 2000 JD  
Career Law Clerk **Mary Christina Ziegenhain** ..... (706) 649-7860

**United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Georgia**

433 Cherry Street, Macon, GA 31201  
P.O. Box 1957, Macon, GA 31202  
Tel: (478) 752-3506 Tel: (800) 546-7343 (Toll Free PACER)  
Tel: (478) 752-8183 (VCIS) Fax: (478) 752-8157  
Internet: www.gamb.uscourts.gov

**Number of Judgeships:** 3

**Court Staff**

Bankruptcy Clerk **William E. Tanner** ..... (478) 752-3506  
E-mail: William\_Tanner@gamb.uscourts.gov  
Education: Mercer 1981 JD  
Chief Deputy **Fred Childers** ..... (478) 752-3506  
Budget Analyst/Procurement Clerk **Vicki DuBose** ..... (478) 752-3506  
Financial Administrator **Benita Stripling** ..... (478) 752-3506  
Personnel Specialist/Training Coordinator **(Vacant)** ..... (478) 752-3506  
Systems Manager **Robley Willis** ..... (478) 752-3506  
Administrative Services Specialist  
**Kathy Pope** ..... (478) 752-3506 ext. 3358  
Education: Georgia Col BS, MEd

**Chambers of Chief Bankruptcy Judge John T. Laney III**

One Arsenal Place, 901 Front Avenue, Room 309, Columbus, GA 31901  
P.O. Box 1540, Columbus, GA 31902-1540  
Tel: (706) 649-7840 Fax: (706) 649-7845  
E-mail: john\_laney@gamb.uscourts.gov

**John T. Laney III**  
Chief Bankruptcy Judge

Date of Birth: 1942  
Education: Mercer 1964 AB, 1966 JD  
Began Service: October 1, 1986  
Term Expires: October 1, 2014

**Legal Practice:** Associate, Swift, Pease, Davidson & Chapman (1970-1973); Member, Page, Scrantom, Harris & Chapman (1973-1986)

**Military Service:** United States Army (1964-1970)

**Current Memberships:** American Bankruptcy Institute; American Bar Association; American Judicature Society; Columbus Bar Association; Federal Bar Association; National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges; State Bar of Georgia

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Noor Samed** ..... (706) 649-7840 ext. 4436  
Began Service: August 20, 2007  
Term Expires: September 2009  
E-mail: Noor\_Samed@gamb.uscourts.gov  
Education: Emory 2007 JD  
Secretary **Cheryl Kleven** ..... (706) 649-7840 ext. 4435

**Chambers of Bankruptcy Judge Robert F. Hershner, Jr.**

P.O. Box 86, Macon, GA 31202  
Tel: (478) 752-3505 Fax: (478) 752-8153

**Robert F. Hershner, Jr.**  
Bankruptcy Judge

Date of Birth: 1944  
Education: Mercer 1966 AB, 1969 JD  
Began Service: December 1, 1980  
Term Expires: April 9, 2013

**Academic:** Adjunct Professor, Mercer University (1982-1984)

**Judicial:** Chief Bankruptcy Judge, Chambers of Chief Bankruptcy Judge Robert F. Hershner, Jr., United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Georgia

**Legal Practice:** Counsel, Georgia Legal Services Corporation; Associate, Adams, O'Neal, Hemingway & Kaplan (1972-1976); Partner, Kaplan & Hershner (1976-1980)

**Military Service:** United States Army (1970-1975)

**Current Memberships:** Macon Bar Association; National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges; State Bar of Georgia

**Staff**

Law Clerk **J. Alvin Brown** ..... (478) 752-3505  
Education: Mercer 1987 JD  
Secretary **Debra K. Brown** ..... (478) 752-3505

**Chambers of Bankruptcy Judge James D. Walker, Jr.**

433 Cherry Street, Macon, GA 31201  
P.O. Box 64, Macon, GA 31202  
Tel: (478) 752-8293 Fax: (478) 752-3588

**James D. Walker, Jr.**  
Bankruptcy Judge

Date of Birth: 1948  
Education: Augusta 1970 BA; South Carolina 1974 JD  
Began Service: November 3, 1993  
Term Expires: November 3, 2021

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